

Precycling at home

Precycling is the responsible purchase of products to minimise the amount of waste - saving precious resources and money.

Precycling means thinking about what we buy and how it is packaged and making environmentally responsible decisions. Wherever possible, choose products with minimal packaging or those packaged in recycled materials. The only way to be a true recycler is to ensure you buy recycled products.

Become a precycler at home by:

- ✓ buying loose instead of pre-packaged fruit and vegetables
- ✓ buying goods with minimal, or recycled, packaging
- ✓ refusing plastic bags at the check-out if you only have a couple of items to carry
- ✓ taking reusable carrier bags (green bags) when shopping to avoid using plastic bags
- ✓ buying goods that last instead of the disposable variety (such as pens and razors)
- ✓ reusing cardboard boxes to carry groceries and other goods
- ✓ buying consumables in bulk rather than individual servings to reduce packaging
- ✓ buying products in compostable packaging if packaged products are unavoidable
- ✓ using rechargeable batteries instead of disposable ones
- ✓ putting a 'No Junk Mail' sign on your mailbox if you don't want advertising material
- ✓ storing left over food in reusable plastic containers instead of plastic wrap
- ✓ reusing gift wrap and ribbons
- ✓ buying concentrated products such as laundry powders
- ✓ using mugs instead of paper or styrofoam cups, cloth napkins instead of paper towels or serviettes and handkerchiefs instead of tissues
- ✓ using fewer disposable nappies and more reusable cloth nappies
- ✓ using cotton cloths when cleaning instead of paper towels or disposable cloths. Recycle old clothes and bedding into cleaning rags
- ✓ repairing electrical appliances when they break rather than throwing them out
- ✓ borrowing or renting items you may only use occasionally rather than buying them
- ✓ minimising the use of disposable plates, cutlery and cups when entertaining by using durable ones you can wash and use again
- ✓ using a water filter to purify water for drinking rather than buying bottled water

For more information visit goldcoastcity.com.au/greengc

